GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2631
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2016
Killing of Tuskers
Bhatt Smt.Ranjanben;Hari Shri G.

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of elephants/tuskers die every year in the country;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether the Government proposes to take any steps for their protection; and
(d) if so, the details thereof along with the steps being taken in coordination with the State Governments?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) & (b) It is estimated that on an average around 100 elephants die every year.

(c) & (d) Chief Wildlife Warden, Kerala in collaboration with Wildlife Crime Control Bureau and other agencies has last year busted a big nexus elephant poachers and ivory smugglers in the country, leading to identification of 18 elephant carcases, 538 Kilograms of ivory/ ivory products, arrest of 63 offenders and recovery of guns and vehicles.

Following steps are taken by the Government for conservation of elephants in the country:

(i) Financial and technical assistance is provided to 16 elephant range states under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Project Elephant'.
(ii) The State has notified good elephant habitats as "Elephant Reserves", for better conservation and management of elephants. So far 29 Elephant Reserves have been established in 14 States.
(iii) Elephant is included under Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, to provide it highest degree of legal protection.
(iv) Improvement of elephant habitat, including Elephant Reserves and Corridors is carried out regularly.
(v) Regular and extensive patrolling of forest areas and anti poaching measures by frontline filed staff of the State Forest Departments.
(vi) Trainings and awareness camps are organised regularly for local people for conservation of elephants and other wildlife.
(vii) Local communities are organised into Joint Forest Management Committees/Eco-development Committees for protection of elephant habitat, including elephant corridors.

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